

for

SENIOR STAFF MEETING

AGENDA

Director's Conference Room  
214 Administration Bldg  
MONDAY, 1 AUGUST 1955

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Status of the New Building	MR. DULLES
Forthcoming Trip ✓	MR. DULLES
Geneva Conference	MR. DULLES
Executive Pay Raise Act	MR. DULLES
Elimination of Sub-standard Personnel	GENERAL CABELL

STAFF CONFERENCE

Minutes of Meeting Held in Director's  
Conference Room, 214 Administration Building,  
Monday, 1 August 1955

Mr. Dulles Presiding

General C. P. Cabell, Deputy Director  
Robert Amory, Jr., Deputy Director for Intelligence  
Frank Wisner, Deputy Director for Plans  
Col. L. K. White, Deputy Director for Support  
Lyman Kirkpatrick, Inspector General  
Richard Bissell, Special Asst. to the Director for Plans & Coordination  
Harrison G. Reynolds, Director of Personnel  
Col. Matthew Baird, Director of Training

Assistant Director for Communications

Assistant to the Director

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Assistant to the Director

cial Support Assist. to the Deputy Director for Support

Acting Assist. Director for Collection & Dissemination

James Angleton, Chief, CI Staff, DD/P

George Aurell, Chief, Far East Division

Chief, [redacted]

hief, Western European Division

, for Chief, Eastern Europe Division

for Assistant Director for Operations

eputy Director for Security

Auditor-in-Chief

James A. Garrison, Chief of Logistics

Chief, Technical Services Staff

, Near East and Africa Division

Mr. Otto E. Guthe, Assistant Director for Research and Reports

Richard Helms, Chief of Operations, DD/P

Lawrence C. Houston, General Counsel

Dr. Sherman Kent, Assistant Director for National Estimates

for Chief, Western Hemisphere Division

Deputy Director for Support

for Chief, Soviet Russian Division

Cord Meyer, Chief,

Management Officer

Walter Pforzheimer, Legislative Counsel

John Richardson, Chief, Southeast Europe Division

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25X1 [redacted] Edward R. Saunders, Comptroller

Huntington Sheldon, Assist. Director for Current Intelligence

[redacted] Chief, Foreign Intelligence Staff

Dr. John R. Tietjen, Chief, Medical Staff

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[redacted] Office of Scientific Intelligence

[redacted] [redacted] Chief, Commercial Staff, DD/S

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1. MR. DULLES' FORTHCOMING TRIP

Mr. Dulles opened the meeting by commenting that within the next ten days or so he plans to leave on a combined business and pleasure trip to Europe. He stated that he would be seeing some of our people in various countries and visiting our installations. He indicated that he would return shortly after Labor Day but was not sure whether or not he would be present at the next Senior Staff Meeting.

2. CREATION OF THE OFFICE OF BASIC INTELLIGENCE

Mr. Dulles pointed out that in the recent Hoover Commission report a recommendation had been made by the Clark Task Force which surveyed CIA that an additional office be established within CIA for the purpose of handling basic intelligence. Mr. Dulles noted that this was a matter which had been considered from time to time in the past and that he agreed that we had now arrived at the point where such an office should be established. Therefore, he is now creating the Office of Basic Intelligence under the DD/I, the main purpose of which will be to handle the NIS surveys. Mr. Dulles introduced [redacted] of ORR who will be the Assistant Director of the Office of Basic Intelligence. He also noted that [redacted] will be [redacted] Deputy. Mr. Amory commented that he thinks the creation of the Office of Basic Intelligence is a natural development of our "coming of age" and is certainly no reflection on ORR which has handled the NIS surveys in the past. Dr. Guthe took this opportunity to commend [redacted] for the outstanding work that he has performed under Dr. Guthe's supervision in ORR for the past couple of years.

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3. STATUS OF THE NEW BUILDING

Mr. Dulles remarked that he believes we are in pretty good shape at the present time with respect to the new building. He commended Colonel White, [redacted] Mr. Garrison and others in the DD/S complex who have worked so hard on various problems in conjunction with obtaining proper legislation for the building and inspecting more than 30 possible building sites. Mr. Dulles noted that the Bill authorizing construction of a new building had been passed by Congress and was scheduled to be signed by the President that day. The various authorizations as contained in the Bill are as we have desired them, with the exception that we were granted \$4 million less than we really felt we needed. However, we have been given the go-ahead and have had funds made available for us which will be adequate for our immediate needs in obtaining further engineering and architectural advice and traffic studies which will be required before final selection of a building site. Mr. Dulles noted that choices of sites have now been narrowed down to two; namely, Langley, Virginia and the Winkler Tract in Alexandria. He stated that after the highest level consultations in the Administration he was advised to no longer consider any site in the District of Columbia proper. This was based on studies of future traffic patterns and problems, lack of

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adequate suitable space within the District and the Civil Defense dispersion factor. Mr. Dulles commented that he wished he could be more optimistic as to a date when we might actually expect to move into a new building but he felt that this goal would be at least three years off.

#### 4. GENEVA CONFERENCE

Mr. Dulles complimented Ray Cline of DD/I, the DD/P representatives and the Security Office representatives for their fine teamwork in connection with the recent Summit Conference at Geneva. He noted that in the last year or so we have proven our usefulness in back-stopping these high level conferences and that the State Department and other Agencies of the Government are tending to rely more and more on our support in such matters. He noted that the results of the Conference raise a number of practical problems for CIA and pointed out that while he believes the President won a great moral victory, the Conference also gave the USSR a measure of respectability in the eyes of the rest of the world which will perhaps enable them to exert greater pressure for neutrality in certain countries. Mr. Dulles can see no great change regarding our general approach to the menace of international communism, at least until Soviet Russia demonstrates by deeds more than talk, their genuine sincerity. Mr. Wisner asked if the papers prepared by DD/P on the menace of international communism were of any use to the U. S. representatives at the Geneva Conference. Mr. Dulles replied that these study papers had been of very great use informally and behind the scenes.

#### 5. ELIMINATION OF SUB-STANDARD PERSONNEL

General Cabell recalled that in the April meeting of the Director's Senior Staff considerable discussion had been given to the problem of elimination of personnel who do not measure up to the high standards of CIA. General Cabell stated that he was not conscious of enough progress having been made on this problem. He requested that those present meet with their key supervisors to again bring this matter to their attention and to seriously scrutinize their personnel with a view to eliminating marginal people. Mr. Dulles supported General Cabell's remarks and pointed out that in his many recent visits to Congress, one of the most difficult things for him to make Congress understand is the need for [ ] people in CIA Headquarters. He stated that he is willing to use his authority to eliminate marginal personnel in order that we may operate with the least possible number of highly efficient personnel.

#### 6. LANGUAGE TRAINING

Mr. Amory queried Colonel Baird as to the progress that has been made on intensified internal language training. Colonel Baird replied that

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proposals on this subject are now on General Cabell's desk. Mr. Amory stated that he would like to see great emphasis placed on language training being given to personnel in Chinese, Russian, Polish and other Slavik languages. He stressed that unless DD/I could obtain more qualified language experts they would be unable to do their job properly and expressed a desire to discuss this subject in more detail later with Colonel Baird.

NOTES FOR SENIOR STAFF MEETING

10 October 1955

Recently I have become aware of a vicious practice of loose talk in this Agency--a sort of "Corridor Gossip" which is completely alien to the professionalism for which we are all striving. I was shocked when I learned of it.

I'm referring to all forms of talk about Agency business or Agency personalities, when the talk is not based upon our tried and true Old Friend: "The Need to Know". I'm including everything from friendly gossip, on through a more malicious, gossipy slander of an individual, to an unauthorized, illegal and unneeded loose discussion of Agency business--or worse still, of a sensitive project.

This all comes under my heading of "Corridor Gossip"--whether it takes place in secure private offices, within Agency groups in Conference Rooms, in Agency corridors, or outside.

Aside from the violation of plain good taste, this kind of talk breaks down all the rules of compartmentation and need-to-know that we've developed over the years. That's why I've been so shocked. I've held a very high regard for the "Professionalism" of CIA ever since I've been in it. Is this practice "Professional"?

Let's look at some of the evils it generates--besides the important loss of security. This kind of thing breaks down mutual confidence that privacies will be respected; it starts rumors; it hurts people. And-- it leads to the continuation of even less-guarded discussions in private gatherings involving a mixture of CIA and other people, and even in public bars! My evidence

indicates that such bar discussions are being held--I'm sure we all agree that it's difficult to maintain security and privacy under those conditions. Now, I don't want to make my main point the place of gossip. Rather, I want to discourage the act.

The purpose in my raising it here today is the hope that this mention of it will cause a realization on all our parts of the insidiousness and the viciousness of the habit, and will generate a determination that we shall all do our parts to break it.

Let me urge each one of you actively to campaign against this throughout your areas of responsibility.